

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB66

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Ramadan

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: School resource officers; local school board to place officer in each public school.

5. Summary: The proposed legislation would require each local school board to place a school resource officer (SRO) in each public elementary, middle and high school. All costs resulting from the requirement shall be paid from the Lottery Proceeds Fund.

Currently, full-time SROs are located in two percent of elementary schools, 65 percent of middle schools and 87 percent of high schools. The cost of the officers is funded by the localities.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 136.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	\$0	0	
2015	\$243,034,852	0	Lottery
2016	\$130,780,728	0	Lottery
2017	\$130,780,728	0	Lottery
2018	\$130,780,728	0	Lottery
2019	\$130,780,728	0	Lottery
2020	\$130,780,728	0	Lottery

8. Fiscal Implications: The estimated cost to provide the funding for a SRO in each elementary and secondary school is estimated at \$242.9 million in FY 2015 and \$130.4 million in FY 2016 and beyond. This cost assumes the inclusion of a vehicle in the first year. Without the cost of a vehicle for each officer, the bill would require Lottery funding of \$109.5 million each year. In addition, the Department of Criminal Justice Services would need to provide additional training sessions at a cost of \$100,000 the first year and \$372,000 each year thereafter.

The proposed legislation would require the Lottery Proceeds Fund to pay for the costs of school resource officers prior to being used for any other purpose. Currently, the Lottery

Proceeds Fund supports a number of educational programs. It should be noted that 100 percent of lottery proceeds are currently appropriated for public education purposes; therefore, if lottery funds are diverted to support school resource officers, a decision must be made regarding the continuation of the programs currently funded with lottery proceeds. If they are continued, general fund support would be required.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services operates an incentive grant fund to encourage local school divisions to employ school resource officers. The introduced budget includes \$1.7 million in general fund appropriation in both FY 2015 and FY 2016 for this purpose. The provisions of the bill direct that the incentive funding be in addition to the Lottery support for SROs. However, if the state is providing full funding for the cost of the officers, the incentive grants will no longer be necessary. It is assumed that the funding could be shifted to offset some of the general fund impact from the provisions of this bill.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Direct Aid to Public Education, Board of Education, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Department of Education, local school boards

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

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